

STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE AND
BARBARA COATS, FICF, RICP - MODERN WOODMEN FRATERNAL FINANCIAL

NOEL COWARD'S

Blithe Spirit

DIRECTED BY
PAULA MABRY

FEATURING
CHAKIRA CLARK
LOUIE P. GALLO
MADELINE GOLDEN
KAT HESTER
CINDY RUFF
PAUL RUFF
MARSHA WILLIAMS



NOVEMBER 14-17
& 19-22, 2024



BLITHE SPIRIT

WRITTEN BY
Noël Coward

*"Blithe Spirit" is produced in special arrangement with
Concord Theatricals, on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.*

THE CAST

Charles Condomine	Louie P. Gallo
Ruth Condomine.....	Chakira Clark*
Elvira	Cindy Ruff
Madame Arcati	Madeline Golden
Dr. Bradman	Paul Ruff
Violet Bradman	Marsha Williams
Edith	Kat Hester

**SCT Debut*

TIME AND SETTING

1941: the charming country home of English writer
Charles Condomine and his (second) wife Ruth

*There will be a 10-minute intermission between Act 1 and Act 2,
as well as a second intermission between Act 2 and Act 3.*

THE CREW

Director.....Paula Mabry
Assistant Director.....Brittany Page
Prop Mistresses.....Albany Mercer and Pat Wooden
Lighting Operator.....Kylie Dowd
Sound Operator.....Dwayne Wise

Scenic Design.....Paula Mabry
Set Construction Lead.....Wayne Durst
Set Decorator.....Ann Bonner
Costumes.....Pat Wooden
Lighting Design.....Courtney Schmitz
Props.....Ann Bonner, Marty Haug,
Paula Mabry, Cindy Ruff, and Marsha Williams

Poster Design.....Patty Archer
Box Office.....Gabe Smith
Promotional Photography.....Dianna Janus
Opening Night Party.....Jansen Fair and Terry McDowell

SET CONSTRUCTION

Wayne Durst

Dwayne Wise

Ann Bonner, Louie P. Gallo, Madeline Golden, Marty Haug,
Kat Hester, Paula Mabry, Regan Plunkett, Cindy Ruff,
Paul Ruff, Gabe Smith, Marsha Williams

SPECIAL THANKS

Neena Howell and the Habitat for Humanity Restore
39759 Nutrition—Heather Hudson, Derek Aaron, Patty Archer,
Ann Bonner, Stephen Cunetto, Melissa Fulgham, Heath Hudson,
Jessica Jolly, Thomas La Foe, Gabe Smith

ABOUT THE CAST

Chakira Clark (Ruth Condomine)

Chakira is a graduate of AMDA College of the Performing Arts in Los Angeles with a BFA in Musical Theatre. "I'm so excited to be back on the stage and can't wait to bring more characters to life."

Louie P. Gallo (Charles Condomine)

Louie is grateful to be back on the SCT stage. He has been volunteering at SCT since 2019 and has acted in multiple plays. He directed his first play, *Alabama Story*, last season, and will be directing *The Revolutionists* later this season in May 2025.

Madeline Golden (Madame Arcati)

In 1996, Madeline had the opportunity to play a delightful character named "Madame Arcati." At the time, she had a "presentiment" that she would one day reprise the role — and now, nearly 30 years later, that moment has arrived. A seasoned performer at SCT, Madeline is thrilled to share the stage with both old and new friends and to once again work under Paula's direction. Madeline hopes to "conjure up" an evening filled with fun and laughter for the audience, assuring everyone, "We have only friendly spirits here at The Playhouse on Main."

Kat Hester (Edith)

Kat is thrilled to be part of *Blithe Spirit*. She was Cassandra in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* in 2017, when the award-winning show, featuring fellow cast member Madeline Golden, went to Nationals in Minnesota! Starting at SCT in the 90's, along with MSU student Paul Ruff, in *Ten Little Indians*, Kat taught in Mississippi (public school) for 29 wonderful years, retired in 2011 and enjoys working in the yard, tending to a trillion HUGE patio plants, Netflix binges and messing around with their 24-pound cat, Jones. When babysitters are needed for their 5 amazing grandchildren, she and her husband speed South or West to help their adult kids juggle busy lives. She wants to thank her beloved Charles and their incredible children John Alden, Haley and Hanah for their encouragement and love.

ABOUT THE CAST

Cindy Ruff (Elvira)

Cindy is back onstage at SCT in her second consecutive appearance as a member of the dearly departed. You might have seen her recently as “Ze Cook” in last season’s production of *Clue* or in previous seasons in *Smoke on the Mountain*, 9 to 5—The Musical, *The Addams Family*, and many more. Cindy has been entertaining SCT audiences since 2001 and looks forward to many more productions and roles, dead or alive!!

Paul Ruff (Dr. Bradman)

Paul has been involved in over 50 productions at SCT to date. He has also served on the board of directors and as the president of our organization. He would like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication. And as always to his wife and castmate Cindy, “I love you, babe!”

Marsha Williams (Violet Bradman)

Marsha is a charter member of SCT who has been involved onstage, backstage, and off stage since the theatre's beginnings. Luckily her family—her husband, Clyde; her daughter and son, Rowan and Kyle; her two grandchildren, Sophie and Liam; and her son-in-law, Marty—have been along for the ride as well, so that they haven't been able to complain (too much) about all the hours she has been away from home. Sophie is coincidentally this week performing in the SHS production of a Noel Coward play. Some favorite shows: *The Lion in Winter*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Love Letters* and so many others.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

“Directing *Blithe Spirit* has been on my “bucket list” since my college days. Each night I have enjoyed hearing Noel Coward’s lyrical, humorous script. I appreciate each person who helped this play come to the stage. They are truly the very BEST people! I am honored to work with such a talented cast and crew. Now, let’s transport ourselves to a small village in England, 1941!”

— Paula Mabry

Starkville Community Theatre

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